

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended): A module for screening or diverting particulate material comprising either one of a screening member having a unitary, single-level structure including an array of sieve apertures of a predetermined size defined therein for allowing particulate material up to the predetermined size to pass through the module or a diverting member having a unitary, single-level structure for redirecting the flow path of the said particulate material, the screening and diverting member including a frame engagement member, extending downwardly from a lower surface of the screening or diverting member, for interlockingly mounting the screening or diverting member onto a reinforcing support frame such that the screening or diverting member is readily attachable to and detachable therefrom, and such that particulate material passing through the screening member passes through the reinforcing support frame, the screening or diverting member being further interlockingly mountable onto a plurality of posts such that the screening or diverting member is readily detachable therefrom.

2. (Original): A module according to claim 1, wherein said screening or diverting member and said frame are configured to mate with a portion of each of said posts by snap-fit engagement.

3. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim 1, wherein said screening or diverting member comprises a substantially rectangular shape having a plurality of corners, and wherein a plurality of post engagement members are ~~located~~ connected at ~~each~~ a plurality of the corners of the screening or diverting member for interlockingly mounting said screening or diverting member to ~~each of~~ said posts engagement members.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of a surface of said ~~frame engagement member~~ screening or diverting member includes a gripping surface for engaging a complementary gripping surface on an engagement surface of said frame, thereby providing increased frictional mating engagement between said screening or diverting member and said frame.

6. (Original): A module according to claim 1, wherein each of said posts is joined to a mounting piece.

7. (Original): A module according to claim 6, wherein said mounting piece comprises a structural bar, a rod, or a tube.

8. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim 1, wherein each said post ~~is mounted to an underlying support member of a deck assembly~~ frame engagement member comprises at least one detent member.

9. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim 1, ~~which~~ wherein the portion of the screening member defining the array of sieve apertures, or the portion of the diverting member redirecting the flow path of the said particulate material, is formed of at least one polymeric material.

10. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim 1 ~~8~~, wherein ~~at least one frame is formed of a metal material or a polymeric material~~ each detent member includes a locking tab.

11. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim 1, ~~wherein each of the posts includes at least one of a slot into which at least one post engagement member located on a corner of each said module is interlockingly engaged, and wherein each of the posts further comprises at least one frame slot within which a corner of each said frame is readily and interlocking mounted~~ which is placed over the reinforcing support frame so that the frame engagement member extends along inwardly facing surfaces of the reinforcing support frame.

12. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim 1 ~~10~~, wherein ~~said frame slot is arcuate shaped~~ each locking tab engages the reinforcing support frame.

13. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim 1, ~~wherein each of said posts comprises at least one of a slot or a recess for interlockingly engaging with said module, and at least one frame slot is disposed within said posts~~ which includes a substantially rectangular upper screening member.

14. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim 1, wherein ~~at least one said frame has a substantially rectangular shaped perimeter including at least one arcuate shaped corner~~ said frame engagement members comprise substantially planar extensions having inwarding and outwarding facing sides.

15. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim ~~18~~, wherein ~~at least one said frame includes at least one laterally extending bracing member for maintaining the structural integrity of said frame~~ said detent member includes a gripping surface for engaging a complementary gripping surface on an engagement surface of said frame.

16. (Original): A module according to claim 1, wherein said screening or diverting member defines a plurality of receptacles, each receptacle receiving and retaining a portion of each of said posts.

17. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim 1, ~~which~~ wherein said screening or diverting member comprises ~~includes~~ a frame engagement member extending from a lower surface thereof for readily and interlockably mounting said module onto at least one said frame.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended): A module according to claim ~~15~~, wherein ~~each of the posts includes at least one recess into which at least one post engagement member located on a corner of each said module is interlockingly engaged, and wherein each of the posts further comprises at least one frame slot within which a corner of each said frame is readily and interlocking mounted~~ said gripping surface on said detent member is located along its outwardly facing side.

21. (Currently Amended): A method for producing a module for screening or diverting particulate material, comprising:

forming a module comprising either one of a screening member having a unitary, single-level structure including an array of sieve apertures of a predetermined size defined therein for allowing particulate material up to the predetermined size to pass through the module and a diverting member a unitary, single-level structure including for redirecting the flow path of the said particulate material, the screening and diverting member including a frame engagement member, extending downwardly from a lower surface of the screening or diverting member, for interlockingly mounting the screening or diverting member onto a reinforcing support frame such that the screening or diverting member is readily attachable to and detachable therefrom; and

configuring said screening or diverting module for interlockingly and detachably mountability onto a reinforcing support frame and onto a plurality of posts which removably and interlockingly support a reinforcing support frame, said module being disposable over at least a portion of at least one of the posts,

the module being positionable on the reinforcing support frame so that particulate material passing through the screening module passes through the reinforcing support frame.

22. (Original): A method according to claim 21, wherein said screening or diverting member and said frame are configured to mate with a portion of each of said posts by snap-fit engagement.

23. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21, wherein said screening or diverting member comprises a substantially rectangular shape having a plurality of corners, and wherein a plurality of post engagement members are located at each of the corners of the screening or diverting member for interlockingly mounting said screening or diverting member to each of said posts.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21, wherein at least a portion of a surface of said ~~frame engagement member~~ screening or diverting member includes a gripping surface for engaging a complementary gripping surface on an engagement surface of said frame, thereby providing increased frictional mating engagement between said screening or diverting member and said frame.

26. (Original): A method according to claim 21, wherein each of said posts is joined to a mounting piece.

27. (Original): A method according to claim 26, wherein each said mounting piece comprises a structural bar, a rod, or a tube.

28. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21, where each said post ~~is mounted to an underlying support member of a deck assembly~~ frame engagement member comprises at least one detent member.

29. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21, ~~which~~ wherein the portion of the screening member defining the array of sieve apertures, or the portion of the diverting member redirecting the flow path of the said particulate material, is formed of at least one polymeric material.

30. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim ~~21~~ 28, wherein ~~at least one frame is formed of a metal material or a polymeric material~~ each detent member includes a locking tab.

31. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21, ~~wherein each of the posts includes at least one of a slot into which at least one post engagement member located on a corner of each said module is interlockingly engaged, and wherein each of the posts further comprises at least one frame slot within which a corner of each said frame is readily and interlocking mounted in which the module is placed over the reinforcing support frame so that the frame engagement member extends along inwardly facing surfaces of the reinforcing support frame.~~

32. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim ~~34~~ 30, wherein ~~said frame slot is arcuate shaped~~ each locking tab engages the reinforcing support frame.

33. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21, ~~wherein each of said posts comprises at least one of a slot or a recess for interlockingly engaging with said module, and at least one frame slot is disposed within said posts~~ which includes a substantially rectangular upper screening member

34. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21, wherein ~~at least one said frame has a substantially rectangular-shaped perimeter including at least one arcuate-shaped corner~~ said frame engagement members comprise substantially planar extensions having inwarding and outwarding facing sides.

35. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21~~8~~, wherein ~~at least one said frame includes at least one laterally extending braising member for maintaining the structural integrity of said frame~~ said detent member includes a gripping surface for engaging a complementary gripping surface on an engagement surface of said frame.

36. (Original): A method according to claim 21, wherein said screening or diverting member defines a plurality of receptacles, each receptacle receiving and retaining a portion of each of said posts.

37. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim 21, ~~which~~ wherein said screening or diverting member comprises includes a frame engagement member extending from a lower surface thereof for readily and interlockably mounting said module onto at least one said frame.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended): A method according to claim ~~35~~, wherein ~~each of the posts includes at least one recess into which at least one post engagement member located on a corner of each said module is interlockingly engaged, and wherein each of the posts further comprises at least one frame slot within which a corner of each said frame is readily and interlocking mounted~~ said gripping surface on said detent member is located along its outwardly facing side.